

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELGRA 05523 131354Z

43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SCEM-02

INT-08 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NEA-10

IO-14 DRC-01 /103 W

----- 120837

R 131324Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8010

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONGEN ZAGREB

USDOC WASHDC

EEC BRUSSELS 545

UNCLAS BELGRADE 5523

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG YO

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV ENERGY CRISIS

REF : BELGRADE 5420

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. RESTRICTIONS ON CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY CONTINUE THROUGHOUT YUGOSLAVIA. HOWEVER, SITUATION SOMEWHAT RELIEVED BY RETURN TO OPERATION OF KEY THERM-ELECTRIC PLANTS, AND PARTIAL RESTORATION OF SOME HYDRO-ELECTRIC STATUIONS DUE TO WARMER WEATHER AND RAINFALL IN SOME AREAS. INDUSTRIES FORCED TO SHUTDOWN DURING FIRST WEEK OF DEC. (REFTEL) HAVE RETURNED TO REDUCED OR COMPLETE CAPACITY. END SUMMARY.

2. ACUTE POWER SHORTAGE HIT IN LATE NOV. - EARLY DEC. DUE TO SIMULTANEOUS STOPPAGE OF SEVERAL HYDRO-ELECTRIC (HE) AND THERMO-ELECTRIC (TE) PLANTS. DURING PAST WEEK SITUATION AMELIORATED BY:

(A) REPAIR OR RESTORATION OF KEY TE FACILITIES. IN SLOVENIA TRBOVLJE PLANT (180 MW) NOW ON LINE, AND SOSTANJ III (200 MW) DUE TO COME ON LINE IN A FEW DAYS. IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA TUZLA

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BELGRA 05523 131354Z

III (200 MW) IS OPENDTING AGAIN. IN KOSOVO FOUR TE PLANTS (595 MW)

WERE COMPLETELY OUT OF ACTION DUE TO HEAVY SNOWFALL, PREVENTING MINING AND TRANSPORT OF LIGNITE. THREE OF THESE ARE RESTORED. IN MACEDONIA MOVROVO HE STATION (140 MW) WILL BE REPAIRED SOON.

(B) MODERAT RAINFALL AND MELTING SNOW IN COASTAL REGION RESTORED SOME HE PLANTS. HOWEVER, ACCUMULATIONS ARE LOW AND SEVERAL PLANTS ARE SHUT DOWN OR OPERATING AT REDUCED CAPACITY.

(C) FEDERAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND POWER ENTERPRISES HAVE COORDINATED RESTRICTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF POWER, RESULTING IN MORE EVEN, ALBEIT REDUCED, CONSUMPTION.

(D) INTENSIVE COAL AND LIGNITE MINING TO MAXIMIZE THE OUTPUT.

3. SEVER RESTRICTIONS ARE STILL IN FORCE IN ALL REPUBLICS TO COPE WITH NATIONAL SHORTAGE OF 20-25 MILLION KWH DAILY. (20 PER CENT SHORTFALL)

(A) OF INDUSTRIES PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED TO SHUT DOWN, ALMOST ALL HAVE RETURNED TO AT LEAST PARTIAL OPERATION. HOWEVER, PRODUCTION AVERAGES ABOUT TWENTY PERCENT BELOW NORMAL. IN CROATIA, WORK SHIFTS ARE CURTAILED. IN DALMATIA, WHICH IS HARDEST HIT, FERRO-ALLOYS PLANWCAT SIBENIK AND CARBIDE AND FERRO-CHROME PLANT AT DUGI RAT ISLAND ARE STILL CLOSED DOWN. PRODUCTION OF ALUMINUM, PLASTIC FIBERS AND CEMENT, AMONG OTHERS, HAS BEEN DRASTICALLY CUT IN THIS AREA. BOSNIA, WHICH MUST SUPPLY CROATIA, IS CONSUMING 15 PERCENT BELOW NORMAL. POWER DELIVERIES TO LARGE CONSUMERS SUCH AS ZENICA STEELWORKS, FERTILIZER, FERRO-ALLOY, AND HYDRAULICS PLANTS ARE REDUCED. SIMILARLY, IN MACEDONIA AND MONTENEGRO, SOME LARGE INDUSTRIES (ALUMINUM, STEEL AND CHROME) ARE DRASTICALLY REDUCED.

(C) DAILY BROWNOUT ARE IN EFFECT OR PLANNED IN MANY AREAS. ALL REPUBLICS HAVE REDUCED STREEL AND COMMERCIAL LIGHTING, AND REQUIRE REDUCED USE OF ELECTRIC HEATING AND APPLICANCES. IN ZAGREB POWER IS CUT FROM 6-8 AM AND 4-7 PM TO ALL BUT ESSENTIAL USERS (HOSPITALS, BAKERIES, WATER SUPPLY, ETC.) SIMILAR MEASURES ARE IN EFFECT IN SLOVENIAN MONTENEGRO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AND MACEDONIA.

4. COMMENT. POWER SHORTAGES AND RESULTANT RESTRICTIONS ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE ALL WINTER. CRISIS PERIOD APPEARS TO HAVE PASSED, AND COUNTRY HAS TAKEN NECESSARY MEASURES TO COPE WITH QT-20 PERCENT ELECTRIC ENERGY REDUCTION. ATTEMPTS ARE BEING MADE TO MINIMIZE UNNECESSARY CONSUMPTION AND MAINTAIN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION.  
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PAGE 03 BELGRA 05523 131354Z

FOLLOWING INITIAL SERIOUS DISRUPTION, MOST INDUSTRIES WILL SETTLE FOR REDUCED OUTPUT. IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED. YUGOSLAVS TAKING LONG AND HARD LOOK AT CAUSES AND

EFFECTS OF THIS PROBLEM,  
AND MANYOBSERVERS ACCUSE PLANNERS OF DOING TOO LITTLE TOO LATE. THE RESULT WILL PROBABLY BE CRASH PROGRAM FOR CONSTURCTION OF POWER PLANTS AND DISTRIBUTION GRID.

JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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